Washington, DC – Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) released the following statement on President Obama's announcement tonight confirming the death of Osama bin Laden:

"The death of Osama Bin Laden is the most significant blow to al Qaeda in the nearly ten years since the terrorist attacks on 9/11/2001. This is a just end to a mass murderer who targeted innocents and destroyed so many lives.

"President Obama, his national security team and our courageous military personnel are to be commended for their leadership in achieving this accomplishment.

"I hope that today's action provides some comfort to the families who lost loved ones in the attacks as well as families of our military personnel who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the pursuit of terrorists who threaten our country.

"There is much more work ahead to keep our nation safe.

"I share the President's belief that this historic moment is an opportunity for all Americans to once again come together to remember our common ties. Our greatness as a nation and our continued security depend on our determination as Americans to protect our shared values."

Congresswoman Betty McCollum serves on the House Appropriations and Budget Committees.

####